



PATRIOT LETTER

OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY
WESTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI

TODD P. GRAVES

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A Message from the United States Attorney

2ND ANNUAL CRYSTAL KIPPER & ALI KEMP AWARD PRESENTED TO LAMAR ADVERTISING

Dear Law Enforcement Officials,

Earlier this month, I announced the recipient of the Second Annual Crystal Kipper & Ali Kemp Memorial Award during National Crime Victims' Rights Week, a week of observance on behalf of all victims of crime. I would like to take another chance to recognize the organization selected for this award – Lamar Advertising Company.



The award is named for two Kansas City area crime victims – Crystal Kipper, an 18-year-old Gladstone, Mo., resident who was murdered on Feb. 24, 1997, after her car broke down on Interstate 29, just north of Platte City, Mo., and Ali Kemp, a 19-year-old Blue Valley North High School graduate who was murdered on June 18, 2002, while she worked at the Foxborough neighborhood swimming pool in Leawood, Kan.

In February 2003, a few months after Ali Kemp's death, Lamar Advertising began erecting billboards throughout the Kansas City area in an effort to recruit the general public's assistance in finding a suspect in the case.

The billboards proved instrumental to detectives working the case, who made an arrest in November. That arrest stemmed directly from two calls into the Crime Stoppers TIPS Hotline that were prompted by the billboards.

Lamar Advertising's contributions extend well beyond the Kemp case. Today even, the company's commitment to helping crime victims can be seen on billboards seeking tips on a variety of cases across the metropolitan area. These efforts are an invaluable asset to those of us in law enforcement and have already assisted a number of agencies in apprehending suspects in a variety of other violent crimes.

I would like to personally thank Lamar Advertising for their laudable work.

Sincerely,

Todd P. Graves
United States Attorney

A Look Inside

LECC News and Events.....2

The Law Enforcement Coordinating Committee is currently accepting registrants for its third annual training seminar, which will take place in St. Joseph, Mo. A registration form and more information regarding the training is available inside this issue of the Patriot Letter.

U.S. Attorney News Updates.....3

The Organized Crime Strike Force Unit Chief will update you on its progress from 2004 and discuss Project Ceasefire, an anti-gun crime initiative that stems from Project Safe Neighborhoods.

Courthouse News.....3

A Richmond law enforcement officer and a Kansas City area attorney were indicted on charges related to enticing minors to engage in illicit sexual activity. Details of the indictment, as well as information on other cases from the Western District of Missouri can be found inside this issue of the Patriot Letter.

Career Updates.....4

The U.S. Attorney considers all of the county prosecutors in the Western District of Missouri important partners in an effort to fight crime in our community. Therefore, this issue of the Patriot Letter lists all of these prosecutors' names in an effort to familiarize the law enforcement community with each.

